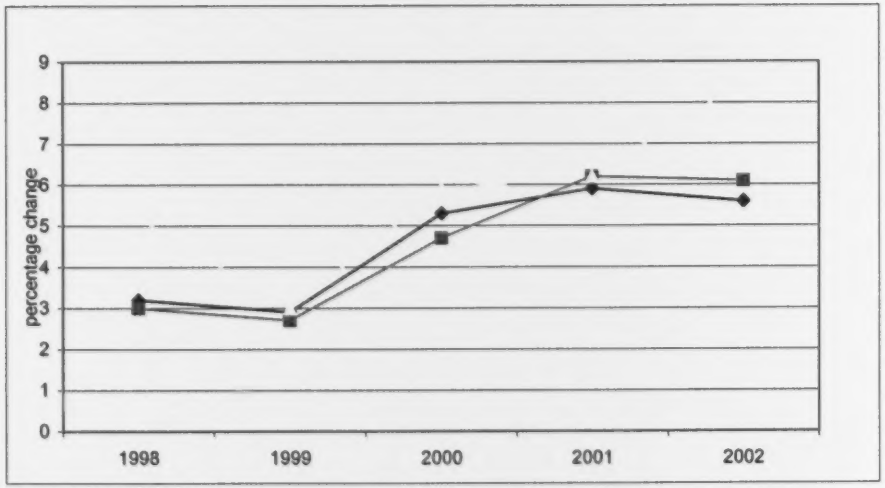
NOVA SCOTIA
Finance
Economics and Statistics

Nova Scotia/Canada Economic Indicators
March 2006

(April 20, 2006)



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Notes:

(1) Statistics Canada estimate July 1
(2) Annual average
a Actual
sa Seasonally adjusted
p Preliminary
pa Preliminary actual
i Intention
ri Revised intention

Data Sources:
Population, Vital Statistics, Migration - Statistics Canada, Demographic Estimates Section, Quarterly Demographic Statistics, Catalogue No. 91-002
Labour Force - Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division, Labour Force Survey, monthly Catalogue No. 71-001-XIE; Labour Force Historical Review, Catalogue No. 71F0004XCB
Employment Insurance - Statistics Canada, Labour Statistics Division, Employment Insurance Statistics, monthly
Consumer Price Index - Statistics Canada, Prices Division, The Consumer Price Index, Catalogue 62-001
Income (Personal Income per Capita, Total Wages & Salaries, Average Weekly Wages) - Statistics Canada, System of National Accounts, Provincial Economic Accounts, quarterly, Catalogue No. 13-213-PPB; Estimates of Labour Income, quarterly, Catalogue No. 13F0016; Employment, Earnings & Hours, monthly, Catalogue No. 72-002
Retail/Wholesale - Statistics Canada, Retail Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-005; New Motor Vehicle Sales, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-007; Wholesale Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 63-008
Commodity Sector - Statistics Canada, Farm Cash Receipts, quarterly, Catalogue No. 21-001; Sawmills & Planing Mills, monthly, Catalogue No. 35-003; Canada's Mineral Production, annual, Catalogue No. 26-202; Natural Gas Transportation and Distribution, monthly, Catalogue No. 55-002; Electric Power Statistics, monthly, Catalogue No. 57-001; Fisheries & Oceans Canada statistics, annual monthly, Catalogue No. 57-001; Monthly Survey of Manufacturing Shipments, CANSIM Tables 304-0014 and 304-0015; Canadian International Merchandise Trade, monthly, Catalogue No. 65-001
Construction - Statistics Canada, Private and Public Investment in Canada, annual, Catalogue Nos. 61-205; Building Permits, monthly, Catalogue No.64-001; Canada Mortgage and Housing statistics, monthly/quarterly
Gross Domestic Product - Statistics Canada, System of National Accounts, Provincial Economic Accounts, Catalogue No. 13-213-PPB

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NOVA SCOTIA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS			% Change Reference Period		ANNUAL STATISTICS			Year-over-Year % Change	
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
POPULATION	Jan 1/2006	937,196	938,339	936,988	0.1	(0.1)	936,302 (1)	937,509 (1)	937,889 (1)	0.1	0.0
VITAL STATISTICS											
Births	Oct-Dec/2005	2,043	2,033	2,012	(0.5)	(1.0)	8,650	8,605	8,537	(0.5)	(0.8)
Deaths	Oct-Dec/2005	2,053	2,078	2,167	1.2	4.3	8,191	8,336	8,522	1.8	2.2
Marriages	Oct-Dec/2005	827	873	870	5.6	(0.3)	4,878	4,866	4,853	(0.2)	(0.3)
MIGRATION											
Total Net Migration	Oct-Dec/2005	73	(437)	(973)	--	--	1,362	874	(1,366)	(35.8)	--
Net Interprovincial	Oct-Dec/2005	91	(179)	(988)	--	--	142	(431)	(2,676)	--	--
Net International	Oct-Dec/2005	18	(258)	15	--	--	1,220	1,305	1,310	7.0	0.4
Immigration	Oct-Dec/2005	390	372	465	(4.6)	25.0	1,476	1,770	1,929	19.9	9.0
Emigration	Oct-Dec/2005	408	630	450	54.4	(28.6)	256	465	619	81.6	33.1
LABOUR FORCE											
Seasonally Adjusted											
Total Labour Force ('000)	Mar/2006	482.1	483.1	481.0	0.2	(0.4)	474.6	485.0	483.9	2.2	(0.2)
Employed ('000)	Mar/2006	439.2	442.3	443.7	0.7	0.3	431.2	442.2	443.1	2.6	0.2
Goods Industries ('000)	Mar/2006	90.8	93.5	87.2	3.0	(6.7)	92.4	93.7	91.2	1.4	(2.7)
Service Industries ('000)	Mar/2006	348.4	348.7	356.5	0.1	2.2	338.8	348.5	351.9	2.9	1.0
Unemployment ('000)	Mar/2006	42.9	40.8	37.3	(4.9)	(8.6)	43.4	42.8	40.8	(1.4)	(4.7)
Unemloyment Rate (%)	Mar/2006	8.9	8.4	7.8	--	--	9.1	8.8	8.4	--	--
Participation Rate (%)	Mar/2006	63.8	63.6	63.1	--	--	63.1	64.1	63.6	--	--
Actual											
Employed ('000)	Mar/2006	424.7	427.6	428.7	0.7	0.3	431.2	442.2	443.1	2.6	0.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	Mar/2006	10.3	9.8	9.0	--	--	9.1	8.8	8.4	--	--

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		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS (EI)											
Total Beneficiaries (#)	Jan/2006	51,080	50,930	49,860	(0.3)	(2.1)	40,698 (2)	40,941 (2)	40,802 (2)	0.6	(0.3)
Total Benefits Paid ($'000)	Jan/2006	63,640	80,645	78,773	26.7	(2.3)	680,374	678,533	692,344	(0.3)	2.0
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)											
Nova Scotia											
All-Items	Mar/2006	125.0	128.2	131.3	2.6	2.4	123.9	126.1	129.6	1.8	2.8
Food	Mar/2006	123.3	128.7	131.2	4.4	1.9	122.5	125.3	129.2	2.3	3.1
Shelter	Mar/2006	124.1	128.8	133.4	3.8	3.6	122.3	125.4	130.9	2.5	4.4
INCOME											
Personal Income Per Capita ($)	2004	25,418	26,113	26,905	2.7	3.0	26,113	26,905	--	3.0	--
Total Wages & Salaries ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	12,997.2	13,368.9	14,076.0	2.9	5.3	12,997.2	13,368.9	14,076.0	2.9	5.3
Average Weekly Wages & Salaries ($)	Jan/2006	598.06	625.72	645.73	4.6	3.2	598.25	614.85	636.09	2.8	3.5
RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE[1]											
All Retail Outlets ($ millions)	Jan/2006	846.4	833.8	937.5	(1.5)	12.4	10,014.9	10,296.5	10,596.1	2.8	2.9
New Motor Vehicle Sales ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	130.9	145.7	167.4	11.3	14.9	1,313.1	1,282.2	1,383.1	(2.4)	7.9
Wholesale Trade ($millions)	Jan/2006	543.3	489.7	539.8	(9.9)	10.2	6,854.3	6,266.7	6,241.8	(8.6)	(0.4)

[1] Statistics Canada terminated department store sales data due to confidentiality constraints.

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INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS			% Change Reference Period		ANNUAL STATISTICS			Year-over-Year % Change	
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2003\4
COMMODITY SECTORS											
Farm Cash Receipts ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	424.8	451.4	455.1	6.3	0.8	424.8	451.4	455.1	6.3	0.8
Fish Landings ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2004	801.1	825.9	697.6 p	3.1	(15.5)	825.9	697.6 p	--	(15.5)	--
Lumber Production (000m3)	Jan/2006	125.8	121.3	113.1	(3.6)	(6.8)	1,648.4	1,750.7	1,556.7	6.2	(11.1)
Mineral Production[1] ($ millions)	2005	263.2	285.6	286.1 p	8.5	0.2	263.2	285.6	286.1 p	8.5	0.2
Marketable Gas Receipts (million m3)	Jan-July/2005	2,667.4	2,539.5	2,231.1	(4.8)	(12.1)	4,469.5	4,174.1	--	(6.6)	--
Power Generation (GW.h)	Jan/2006	1,252.5	1,221.3	1,103.8	(2.5)	(9.6)	12,386.9	12,563.8	12,371.7	1.4	(1.5)
Manufacturing Shipments ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	1,308.2	1,422.1	1,396.5	8.7	(1.8)	8,642.5	9,281.1	9,799.2	7.4	5.6
Foreign Exports ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	815.1	801.6	991.0	(1.7)	23.6	5,351.4	5,479.3	5,679.7	2.4	3.7
Foreign Imports ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	965.5	1,102.4	1,140.2	14.2	3.4	5,816.1	6,589.9	6,986.8	13.3	6.0
CONSTRUCTION											
Capital Construction Expenditures ($ millions)	2006	3,662.0	3,699.5 pa	4,176.8 I	1.0	12.9	3,441.9	3,662.0	3,699.5 pa	6.4	1.0
Building Permits ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	83.4	70.7	116.3 p	(15.2)	64.5	1,014.1	1,125.8	1,188.3	11.0	5.6
Housing Starts Centres 10,000+											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	3,589	3,313	3,258	(7.7)	(1.7)	3,589	3,313	3,258	(7.7)	(1.7)
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	3,634	3,526	2,991	(3.0)	(15.2)	3,634	3,526	2,991	(3.0)	(15.2)
All Areas											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	5,096	4,717	4,775	(7.4)	1.2	5,096	4,717	4,775	(7.4)	1.2
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	5,434	4,896	4,456	(9.9)	(9.0)	5,434	4,896	4,456	(9.9)	(9.0)
Under Construction (units)	Dec 31/2005	2,770	2,653	2,902	(4.2)	9.4	2,770	2,653	2,902	(4.2)	9.4
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT											
Real GDP (chained '97 $ millions)	2004	24,702	24,925	25,271	0.9	1.4	24,925	25,271	--	1.4	--

[1] Excludes oil and gas.

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CANADA ECONOMIC INDICATORS

INDICATOR	Current Reference Period	MONTHLY/QUARTERLY/YEAR-TO-DATE STATISTICS			% Change Reference Period		ANNUAL STATISTICS			Year-over-Year % Change	
		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
POPULATION	Jan 1/2006	31,805,716	32,107,043	32,422,919	0.9	1.0	31,669,150 (1)	31,974,363 (1)	32,270,507 (1)	1.0	0.9
VITAL STATISTICS											
Births	Oct-Dec/2005	81,561	81,861	82,550	0.4	0.8	335,202	336,003	339,757	0.2	1.1
Deaths	Oct-Dec/2005	59,278	59,656	60,741	0.6	1.8	227,285	232,176	236,108	2.2	1.7
Marriages	Oct-Dec/2005	25,631	25,927	26,645	1.2	2.8	145,048	146,093	151,334	0.7	3.6
MIGRATION											
Total Net Migration	Oct-Dec/2005	21,610	14,839	22,988	(31.3)	54.9	196,070	197,500	212,227	0.7	7.5
Immigration	Oct-Dec/2005	53,610	48,091	55,354	(10.3)	15.1	221,402	235,826	262,239	6.5	11.2
Emigration	Oct-Dec/2005	32,000	33,252	32,366	3.9	(2.7)	25,332	38,326	50,012	51.3	30.5
LABOUR FORCE											
Seasonally Adjusted											
Total Labour Force ('000)	Mar/2006	17,110.5	17,261.7	17,507.5	0.9	1.4	16,958.5	17,182.3	17,342.6	1.3	0.9
Employed ('000)	Mar/2006	15,851.0	16,065.9	16,396.2	1.4	2.1	15,672.3	15,947.0	16,169.7	1.8	1.4
Goods Industries ('000)	Mar/2006	3,975.9	3,992.8	3,992.5	0.4	(0.0)	3,925.7	3,989.8	4,002.4	1.6	0.3
Service Industries ('000)	Mar/2006	11,875.1	12,073.2	12,403.7	1.7	2.7	11,746.6	11,957.2	12,167.3	1.8	1.8
Unemployment ('000)	Mar/2006	1,259.5	1,195.7	1,111.3	(5.1)	(7.1)	1,286.2	1,235.3	1,172.8	(4.0)	(5.1)
Unemployment Rate (%)	Mar/2006	7.4	6.9	6.3	--	--	7.6	7.2	6.8	--	--
Participation Rate (%)	Mar/2006	67.5	67.2	67.2	--	--	67.5	67.5	67.2	--	--
Actual											
Employed ('000)	Mar/2006	15,567.4	15,779.8	16,106.7	1.4	2.1	15,672.3	15,947.0	16,169.7	1.8	1.4
Unemployment Rate (%)	Mar/2006	7.8	7.4	6.7	--	--	7.6	7.2	6.7	--	--

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		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2004/2003
EMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS (EI)											
Total Beneficiaries (#)	Jan/2006	1,019,190	980,360	946,320 p	(3.8)	(3.5)	841,279 (2)	826,525 (2)	804,353 (2)	(1.8)	(2.7)
Total Benefits Paid ($'000)	Jan/2006	1,439,515	1,616,291	1,619,310	12.3	0.2	14,950,569	14,970,341	14,692,519	0.1	(1.9)
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (1992=100)											
Canada											
All-Items	Mar/2006	123.6	126.5	129.3	2.3	2.2	122.3	124.6	127.3	1.9	2.2
Food	Mar/2006	123.6	127.1	130.2	2.8	2.4	122.4	124.9	128.0	2.0	2.5
Shelter	Mar/2006	119.0	123.0	127.3	3.4	3.5	117.5	120.5	124.2	2.6	3.1
INCOME											
Personal Income Per Capita ($)	2004	28,664	29,369	30,343	2.5	3.3	29,369	30,343	-- --	3.3	-- --
Total Wages & Salaries ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	541,741.1	563,149.2	593,769.1	4.0	5.4	541,741.1	563,149.2	593,769.1	4.0	5.4
Average Weekly Wages & Salaries ($)	Jan/2006	695.24	707.85	741.16	1.8	4.7	690.57	706.03	728.17	2.2	3.1
RETAIL/WHOLESALE TRADE[1]											
All Retail Outlets ($ millions)	Jan/2006	27,895.6	29,762.8	31,822.7	6.7	6.9	331,143.4	346,721.5	367,828.5	4.7	6.1
New Motor Vehicle Sales ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	5,717.0	6,168.7	6,348.3	7.9	2.9	50,493.3	49,639.2	52,511.3	(1.7)	5.8
Wholesale Trade ($millions)	Jan/2006	35,238.8	37,666.3	41,273.0	6.9	9.6	418,810.2	446,210.0	470,350.0	6.5	5.4

(1) Statistics Canada terminated department store sales data due to confidentiality constraints.

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		2 Years Ago	1 Year Ago	Current	1 Year Ago/ 2 Years Ago	Current/ 1 Year Ago	2003	2004	2005	2004/2003	2005/2004
COMMODITY SECTORS											
Farm Cash Receipts ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2005	34,360.0	36,521.3	36,936.6	6.3	1.1	34,360.0	36,521.3	36,936.6	6.3	1.1
Fish Landings ($ millions)	Jan-Dec/2004	2,177.0	2,231.4	2,177.6 p	2.5	(2.4)	2,231.4	2,177.6 p	--	(2.4)	--
Lumber Production (000m3)	Jan/2006	6,427.4	7,008.8	7,331.1	9.0	4.6	79,319.3	84,589.6	82,888.9	6.6	(2.0)
Mineral Production[1] ($ millions)	2005	20,077.2	24,302.7	26,357.0	21.0	8.5	20,077.2	24,302.7	26,357.0	21.0	8.5
Marketable Gas Receipts (million m3)	Jan-July/2005	97,377.7	97,693.6	98,000.1	0.3	0.3	166,395.6	167,283.0	--	0.5	--
Power Generation (GW.h)	Jan/2006	57,839.8	58,372.8	56,172.9	0.9	(3.8)	564,218.5	568,730.6	593,644.7	0.8	4.4
Manufacturing Shipments ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	86,437.5	94,084.5	95,392.9	8.8	1.4	546,770.2	593,452.5	611,551.3	8.5	3.0
Foreign Exports ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	57,267.2	61,782.9	69,091.1	7.9	11.8	354,231.6	385,087.1	407,608.4	8.7	5.8
Foreign Imports ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	51,026.6	57,110.3	59,991.4	11.9	5.0	336,103.7	356,055.7	379,576.7	5.9	6.6
CONSTRUCTION											
Capital Construction Expenditures ($ millions)	2006	154,125.2	167,838.4 pa	179,590.5 i	8.9	7.0	136,763.6	154,125.2	167,838.4 pa	12.7	8.9
Building Permits ($ millions)	Jan-Feb/2006	5,863.9	6,330.6	7,121.0	8.0	12.5	50,772.0	55,578.6	60,755.7	9.5	9.3
Housing Starts Centres 10,000+											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	191,907	204,392	193,470	6.5	(5.3)	191,907	204,392	193,470	6.5	(5.3)
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	173,956	188,345	184,406	8.3	(2.1)	173,956	188,345	184,406	8.3	(2.1)
All Areas											
Starts (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	218,426	233,431	225,481	6.9	(3.4)	218,426	233,431	225,481	6.9	(3.4)
Completions (units)	Jan-Dec/2005	199,244	215,621	211,242	8.2	(2.0)	199,244	215,621	211,242	8.2	(2.0)
Under Construction (units)	Dec 31/2005	137,774	155,230	169,880	12.7	9.4	137,774	155,230	169,880	12.7	9.4
GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT											
Real GDP (chained '97 $ millions)	2004	1,070,789	1,092,388	1,124,428	2.0	2.9	1,092,388	1,124,428	--	2.9	--

[1] Excludes oil and gas.